Mr. K. A. Raman Pillai: May I know whether there are depots in every taluk?

Mr. T. C. Kochunni Pillai: Yes.

Mr. K. A. Raman Pillai: May I know whether the member is aware that the supply of manure in some of the depots falls short of the requirements?

Mr. T. C. Kochunni Pillai: Yes, Sir.

Manure for farmers.

85. * **Mr. A. N. Satyanesan:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the arrangements that have been made to distribute manure to cultivators at cheap rates; and

(*b*) how far the people are taking advantage of the concession offered?

Mr. T. C. Kochunni Pillai: (*a*) The member is referred to the answer to part (a) of question No. 84 above.

(*b*) People are taking full advantage of the concessions offered.

Cultivation of Plantain.

86. * **Mr. A. N. Satyanesan:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the Agricultural Department has estimated the total acreage now under plantain cultivation in the State; and

(*b*) whether in view of the shortage of foodstuffs, the Department has adopted any measures for the development of plantain cultivation?

Mr. T. C. Kochunni Pillai: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes.

Fruit tree cultivation.

87. * **Mr. A. N. Satyanesan:** Will the Government be pleased to state the area at present under fruit tree cultivation by the Agricultural Department?

Mr. T. C. Kochunni Pillai: 17 acres.

Non-pensionable Employees.

88. * **Mr. N. Narayana Kurup:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the pay and scales of pay of contingency (non-pensionable) employees in the various departments have been generally increased or revised during the last three years;

(*b*) whether the recent revision of scales of pay has in any instance been extended to such contingency employees of Government;

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